(xix) The licensees will adhere to provisions of any legislation which may be brought in future with regard to broadcasting.

Non-Payment of fee to casual announcers of AIR

1511. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for non-payment of fee to casual announcers at Delhi Station of All India Radio from January, 2000 to March 2000; and

(b) by when the said payment will be made to casual announcers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that the payment to casual announcers at Delhi Station of All India Radio was not made from January, 2000 to March, 2000 since funds were not available to make the payment during the said period.

(b) The payment for the said period has since been made by Prasar Bharati.

Expansion of DD Network

1512. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken for the expansion of the network in Doordarshan in the non-affluent areas and also for the modernisation of the existing infrastructure;

(b) how many studio projects, besides other development work, will be completed during the current financial year; and

(c) what are the reasons for inordinate delay in developing the infrastructure in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) For further expansion of the Doordarshan network, 14 studios and 228 transmitters are under implementation. Modernisation of existing infrastructure and facilities at Doordarshan centres is a continuous process, and schemes in this regard are formulated and implemented from time to time. 4 studios and 43 transmitters have been upgraded/replaced during the last 3 years. Work on upgradation of one studio and upgradation/replacement of a large number of transmitters is in progress.